

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008**

**The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, September 22, 2008, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, William A. Estrella, Jr, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:26 PM.**

**Present: William A. Estrella, Jr., Chair, Marjorie J. McBride, Vice-Chair, Paul Silva, Secretary, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, Paul E. Brule, Diana B. Campbell, David L. Dugan, Karen A. Lynch and John P. Saviano; Edward P. Mara, Superintendent; Melinda L. Thies, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; Leslie J. Anderson, Interim Director of Pupil Personnel Services, and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**Absent: none**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

**All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.**

**For the record, Mr. Estrella said the opening of school was smooth and flawless. On behalf of the School Committee and the entire community, Mr. Estrella thanked Dr. Mara and his staff for accommodating all of this year's changes, assuring a safe, sound and healthy environment for the students and for an excellent start to school. Dr. Mara is grateful for the recognition and said it was a team effort and everyone pitched in to make it happen. Mrs. McBride also thanked all those who serve our children daily, especially the nurses. Mrs. Campbell commended the community and parents, and especially the Guiteras and Colt Andrews communities, for coordinating the overwhelming donation effort of clothing and food for the families who were victims of the recent house fire in Bristol.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**None**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mr. Brule asked to remove item C.5. from the personnel recommendations. Mr. Estrella said Dr. Mara will correct a typographical error in a recommendation noted as "new" but is actually "to fill a vacancy."**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to approve the remainder of the consent agenda; Mr. Brule seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the August 18 and September 8, 2008 Executive Sessions. Mr. Brule seconded; the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **BUDGET/ FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mr. O'Dell reported that discussion at the last meeting focused mostly around facilities issues; the approval of an architect for general architectural services is a pressing matter because of issues this Subcommittee must address. Dr. Mara said five responses to the RFP were received and a recommendation is ready. Mr. Estrella said a special meeting will be scheduled for September 29th.**

#### **POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Since there has not been another Subcommittee meeting since the last School Committee meeting, Mrs. McBride had nothing new to report.**

#### **PERSONNEL/CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**No new developments to report.**

#### **COLT ANDREWS CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Discussion took place during the Bond Project Building Committee Meeting just prior to this meeting.**

## **CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES**

### **Enrollment / Student Population Update**

**Mr. Estrella said the October 1st enrollment numbers are used for all legal and statutory requirements. Dr. Mara has identified five classrooms at the 25 student level; we will wait until October 1 to solidify that number. Extra stipend payments are made on the basis of the October 1 numbers. A teacher is not entitled to a stipend if the 25th student in their class is their own child. The reasons for placement of students outside of their home schools are: 1) classes in their home district are full; 2) ELL programming (available in only two schools); 3) a sibling attends that school; 4) parental request; and 5) child requires a SPED program. The opening of the third kindergarten classroom at Rockwell has eased the kindergarten crunch.**

**Mr. Estrella reported school enrollment totals:**

**Colt Andrews: 402**

**Guiteras 265**

**Rockwell 293**

**Hugh Cole 528**

**Kickemuit 791**

**Mt. Hope 1132**

## **Out of District 70**

**Dr. Mara added that as of Friday, there are 23 more students enrolled than at this time last year; this is a result of families moving into the District and students coming in from private schools. Mr. Estrella commented that this is the first time every elementary school is K to 5.**

**Mrs. Lynch further asked about placement of teachers' children in schools out of their home district. Dr. Mara explained that a teacher would have to voluntarily take another teacher's child into their class and would not receive a stipend, even if it put them over the contractual limit. A teacher's child would never take the place of a child from that home district. Mrs. Lynch has been questioned by parents of students in over-crowded classrooms. She is pleased that our schools are attracting private school students but feels it is time to discuss accommodations for the increasing numbers; she recommends forming a task force with parent participation. Mr. Estrella assigned this discussion to the November workshop.**

## **Future Agenda Items**

**Election of School Committee officers typically takes place at the November meeting; Mr. Estrella is concerned with the ambiguity of the enabling legislation which articulates election of officers takes place "up to thirty days" after the election, and he asked Attorney**

**Henneous to review its vagueness. Mr. Estrella does not want to take action that could bind a future committee.**

**Also for the November Workshop Mr. Estrella posted discussion of the NESDEC report on population trends which he feels is now suspect because of its prediction of an enrollment decline over the next five years. Dr. Mara, who sits on the NESDEC Board, said they actually predicted a slight up-swing in 2008-2009; the next update is due next month; it factors in the number of building permits issued. Dr. Mara will resend the most recent report in the next packet. Mr. Silva stated the statistics say we are on the incline, we made decisions based on that information; he would like to see answers for on-going predictions of overcrowding and the formation of a task force, including community members, to look at the increase in population ahead of time. He has received calls about a Guiteras classroom of 25 that has a teacher's child from another home district, displacing a child in the Guiteras district. Mr. Silva requested the number of students who are out of their home district. Mr. Estrella asked Dr. Mara to include this information in his next report to the School Committee.**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

### **Recommendation #S 2008-55 A-I: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**

**A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the**

**recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions listed below:**

**1. Caitlin A. Booth Mathematics Teacher (3/5 time) – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: For the 2008-09 School Year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**(Resignation – K. Curry/  
Retirement – B. Penkala)**

**Funding: Operational Budget (1st step)**

**2. Brad Rodrigues Social Studies Teacher (2/5 time) – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: For the 2008-09 School Year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a new position**

**Funding: Operational Budget (1st step)**

**3. Robert A. Geremia Industrial Technology Teacher (3/5 time) –  
Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Sept, 2, 2008, for the remainder of  
the 2008-09 School Year**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**(Resignation – R. Lonardo)**

**Funding: Operational Budget (10th step)**

**4. Timothy A. Gardiner Industrial Technology Teacher (2/5 time) –  
Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Sept. 8, 2008, for the remainder of  
the 2008-09 School Year, pending  
receipt of certification and satisfactory  
completion of pre-employment  
requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**(Resignation – R. Lonardo)**

**Funding: Operational Budget (1st step)**

**5. Sarah A. Thurber Speech/Language Pathologist - Guiteras**

**Effective: September 15, 2008, for the remainder  
of the 2008-09 School Year, pending  
receipt of certification and satisfactory  
completion of pre-employment  
requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**(Retirement – R. Beaulieu)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**



**6. Peter Kells Science Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder  
of the 2008-09 School Year only, pending  
receipt of certification and satisfactory  
completion of pre-employment  
requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – R. Eddy)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**7. Beth Hayes Head Teacher – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: For the 2008-09 School Year**

**Reason: To fill a new position**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**8. Dona Paull Head Teacher – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: September 17, 2008 for the remainder  
of the 2008-09 School Year**

**Reason: To fill a new position**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**9. Jaime Greene Head Teacher – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: For the 2008-09 School Year**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Retirement – J. Colaluca)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**10. Jose M. Fernandes Custodian – Colt Andrews/Oliver**

**Effective: Immediately**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy (Promotion - M. Ferreira)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**11. Christa Resendes Teacher Assistant (Part Time) - Rockwell**

**Effective: September 22, 2008**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**12. Elizabeth Penkala Athletic Director (Part Time) – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: For the 2008-09 School Year**

**Reason: To fill a new position**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**13. Clare White Elementary Literacy Coach (Part Time)**

**Effective: August 26, 2008, for approximately**

**90 days, in accordance with grant funding**

**Reason: To fill a new position in accordance  
with grant funding**

**Funding: Literacy Funds**

**14. Betsy Ose Title I Family Involvement Coordinator (Part Time)**

**Effective: October 1, 2008, for the 2008-09 school**

**year only, in accordance with grant**

**funding**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy in accordance  
with grant funding**

**Funding: Title I Grant**

**B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):**

**1. Meghan McGrath Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**2. Jamison Hague Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**3. Ashlee Soares Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**4. Deborah L. Manosh Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**5. Erica L. Collamore Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**6. Kaitlin Welch Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the  
2008-09 school year, pending  
satisfactory completion of pre-  
employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**C. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2008-09 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

**FALL COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

- 1. Soccer (Boys) Asst. Coach Joseph Sousa \***

**WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

- 2. Basketball (Boys) Head Coach Michael Topazio, Sr.**
- 3. Cheerleading (Competition) Head Coach Sharon Lombardo**

4. Cheerleading (Competition) Asst. Coach Debra Marshall
5. Gymnastics Head Coach Melissa Gendreau
6. Special Olympics Co-Head Coach Susan Carlson
7. Special Olympics Co-Head Coach Wanda Lukas
8. Swimming Head Coach Jonathan Dell
9. Swimming Asst. Coach Rebecca Duggan
10. Track (Indoor) Head Coach Andrew Sabourin
11. Wrestling Head Coach Brian Latessa
12. Wrestling Asst. Coach George Nathan Webster \*

#### **HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER/GYM AREA SUPERVISOR**

13. Supervisor (Fall) Greg Arruda
14. Supervisor (Fall) Gerard Spence

#### **ADVISORS**

15. Debate Team Tricia Talbot

**\* Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**D. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

#### **CERTIFIED**

**Name Area/Level**

- 1. Melissa Amaral Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 2. Sara Biancuzzo General Subject Matter**
- 3. Aradhana Mehta Early Childhood/Sp.Ed.**
- 4. Brett Kearns General Subject Matter**
- 5. Jane E. Kernick General Subject Matter**
- 6. Stacy E. Laird Elementary**
- 7. Shana J. Leffingwell General Subject Matter**
- 8. Melanie Ramos General Subject Matter**
- 9. Elizabeth L. Rhynard General Subject Matter**
- 10. Ann Marie Rosa Elementary**
- 11. Dennis SaoBento General Subject Matter**
- 12. Emily B. Schnell General Subject Matter**
- 13. Thomas Sullivan Elementary**
- 14. Amy E. Webster Elementary**

**E. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

**TEACHER ASSISTANTS**

- 1. Erin Asciola**
- 2. Loren Toumasian**

## **CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE**

**3. Jordan M. Almeida**

**4. Justin Cordeiro**

**5. Robert Wilcox**

**F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence as follows:

**1. Carrie Devine Mathematics Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: September 14, 2008, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with**

**Article 21, Section L1 of the Master**

**Agreement**

**2. Kristina L. Pereira Grade/Team Leader – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: October 6, 2008, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with**

**Article 21, Section L1 of the Master**

**Agreement**

**3. Erin F. Dunlop Foreign Language Teacher – Kickemuit Middle**



**Effective: December 18, 2008, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with  
Article 21, Section L1 of the Master  
Agreement**

**4. Sarah L. Stringer Grade Five Teacher – Colt Andrews**

**Effective: January 10, 2009, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with  
Article 21, Section L1 of the Master  
Agreement**

**G. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the  
recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations as  
listed below:**

**1. James P. Barnaby Health/Physical Education Teacher -  
Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: June 12, 2008**

**Reason: Medical Disability Retirement**

**2. Vanthia Vouros-Chase Special Educator – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: August 25, 2008**

**Reason: Retirement**

**3. Gayle A. Salamon Secretary - Oliver**

**Effective: December 1, 2008**

**Reason: Retirement**

**4. Kimberly Curry Mathematics Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Immediately**

**Reason: Personal**

**5. Robert Eddy Science Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: September 3, 2008**

**Reason: Personal**

**6. Amy Dornfried Child Care Provider**

**Effective: August 25, 2008**

**Reason: Personal**

**7. Laura Callahan Child Care Curriculum and Budget Coordinator  
and Student Assistance Counselor**

**Effective: August 22, 2008**

**Reason: Personal**

**H. SUSPENSION, NONRENEWAL AND/OR TERMINATION OF  
CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: That the School Committee confirm the  
recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote(s) of  
February 11, 2008 and February 25, 2008 as to the following listed**

**teachers and appoint the listed teachers to the positions indicated:**

**Name Anticipated Assignment**

- 1. Susan Castigliero Elementary**
- 2. Patricia Chapman Middle School Mathematics Intervention Specialist (Part Time) (Effective Sept. 22, 2008)**
- 3. Donna Cheatom Elementary (Leave of Absence Vacancy)**
- 4. Carrie Devine Secondary English**
- 5. Rebecca Witte Elementary Mathematics Intervention Specialist (Part Time) (Effective Sept. 22, 2008)**

**I. TERMINATION OF NON-CERTIFIED SUPPORT STAFF: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote of May 19, 2008 of the following listed auxiliary school personnel and appoint the listed personnel to the positions indicated:**

**Name Anticipated Assignment**

- 1. Jillian Amato Teacher Assistant (Part Time to Full Time) (Leave of Absence Vacancy)**
- 2. Denise Salamon Teacher Assistant**
- 3. Robin Shaw Teacher Assistant (Part Time to Full Time) (Leave of Absence Vacancy)**

**Recommendation #S2008-55 C. 5.: Mr. Brule recused himself from this vote.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 1 with Mrs. McBride voting no.**

**Recommendation #S 2008-50: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JEB Entrance Age (Second Reading)**

**MOTION: Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0. (Mr. Brule was not present for this vote.)**

**Recommendation #S 2008-51: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, adopt the new School Committee Policy JHCE Medically Fragile Students (Second Reading)**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0. (All members present.)**

**Recommendation #S 2008-56: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, adopt the new School Committee**

## **Policy SPED Staffing (First Reading)**

**MOTION:** Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Mr. Brule seconded. Mrs. Anderson confirmed that this policy meets requirements of new regulations. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

**Recommendation #S 2008-57:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy DJ Procurement Policy (First Reading)

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 1 with Mrs. McBride opposed.

**Recommendation #S 2008-58:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy DJC Bidding Requirements (First Reading)

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride and Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Recommendation #S 2008-59:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the elimination of School Committee Policy/ Regulation DJC-R Bidding Requirements

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded.  
The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.**

**Recommendation #S 2008-60: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the elimination of School Committee Policy/ Exhibit DJC-E Bidding Requirements**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded.  
The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.**

**Recommendation #S 2008-61: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of seventeen (17) families to home school their children, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District, for the 2008-2009 school year. (Request forms are included in Assistant Superintendent's Report.)**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.**

**Recommendation #S 2008-62: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the ELA Curriculum.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mrs. Campbell**

**seconded. Mr. Silva remarked on the eloquent presentation at the last meeting and Mr. Estrella reiterated thanks to all who did a great deal of work on this curriculum. The motion to approve passed unanimously.**

**Recommendation #S 2008-63: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of the architect for general architectural services.**

**Mr. Estrella requested that because of the nature and importance of this recommendation the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee make the recommendation.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to table this recommendation to the Special Meeting on September 29, 2008. Mr. Brule seconded; the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Overnight Field Trip**

**According to policy, Dr. Mara informed the Committee of the Mt. Hope Band trip to Washington, DC planned for April; students begin early earning money toward their trip through fundraisers. Mrs. McBride and Mrs. Lynch expressed concerns about the ever burdening expense of extra-curricular activities for parents and students. Fundraisers are taxing on the community as well and we must be cognizant of the economic climate. Mrs. Campbell commented we sometimes get into a rut on how we do things and less expensive**

**ways should be explored. Mr. Estrella asked Dr. Mara to impress upon extra-curricular advisors the need to minimize the financial burden on the community; he assured the public that students will not be excluded from participation because of inability to afford the expense.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**None necessary.**

## **ADJOURNMENT – 8:31 PM**

**There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Brule and Mr. Dugan, seconded by Mr. O'Dell, motioned to adjourn at 8:31 PM. The vote was unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Paul Silva, Secretary**



/c